

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please rewrite the first full paragraph on page 13 as follows:

The ink containing the saccharide-alkyleneoxy derivative or a mixture thereof having a molecular weight distribution tends to approach the Newtonian fluid, which preferably improves the discharge stability of the ink. Although the weight average molecular weight (Mw)/number average molecular weight (Mn) is preferably 2 or more, it is to be understood that less than 2 is not denied.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-3, and 10.

Please amend the following claims:

Claim 4 (amended) Ink containing at least a coloring material, water, and a saccharide-alkyleneoxy derivative comprising a compound represented by the following formula (1):



wherein A represents a skeleton of a saccharide selected from the group consisting of C₃ to C₁₂ aldoses, ketoses and sugar alcohols; EP represents an ethyleneoxy group and/or a propyleneoxy group; and n represents an average number of the repeating units, said ink further containing one or more C₃ to C₁₂ saccharides selected from the group consisting of: aldoses having 6 or fewer carbon atoms, aldoses having from 7 to